GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3805
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2009
SHORTAGE OF TRAINED MANPOWER
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is shortage of trained manpower in pharmaceutical industry;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS(SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): At present, there are about 864 Pharmacy Colleges in the country and out of them approximately 140 colleges are imparting Masters` Degree education. The facilities existing in the colleges are not commensurate with the needs of the Indian Pharmaceutical industry.

So there is an acute shortage of trained manpower in Indian pharmaceutical industry, which is a knowledge based profession/industry. Further, pharmaceutical industry is a highly regulated industry and regulations are being changed very frequently.

The majority of Pharmaceutical Colleges do not have Trainers to train the Trainees and lack of equipments is another impediment.

(c): National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), SAS Nagar was started in 1998 to fill the gap. In the last three years 6 more NIPERs, in different regions, have started functioning in their make shift campus with the help of mentor institutes and will take atleast five years to have the full capacity and fulfill its objectives. Newly formed Department of Pharmaceuticals, proposes to start the Star Pharmacy Colleges scheme, for strengthening pharmacy education through improving the status of some of the pharmacy colleges in different States to Star Colleges.